



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SOUTH ATLANTIC DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
ROOM 9M15, 60 FORSYTH ST., S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8801

March 16, 1999

NOTICE OF COMPLETION
Feasibility Report
Ponce de Leon Inlet
Volusia County, Florida

COMPLETION OF STUDY

Notice is hereby given that the Jacksonville District and the South Atlantic Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, have completed a Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment for navigation improvements to Ponce de Leon Inlet, Volusia County, Florida. This report was prepared in response to a resolution of the Committee on Public Works and Transportation of the United States House of Representatives dated May 21, 1991.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommended plan is the construction of a 1,000-foot seaward extension of the South Jetty at the entrance to Ponce de Leon Inlet. A 30-foot scour apron will be constructed along the inside (north side) of the jetty extension.

Based on October 1998 price levels, the estimated first cost of the recommended project is \$5,454,000 of which \$2,988,000 would be the Federal share and \$2,466,000 would be the non-Federal share. Based on an interest rate of 6 7/8 percent, the average annual benefits and average annual cost are estimated at \$567,000 and \$419,000, respectively. The benefit-cost ratio is 1.4.

The recommendations contained herein reflect the information available at this time and current departmental policies governing formulation of individual projects. They do not reflect program and budgeting priorities inherent in the formulation of a national civil works construction program nor the perspective of higher review levels within the Executive Branch. Consequently, the recommendations may be modified before they are transmitted to the United States Congress as a proposal for authorization and/or implementation funding.

COORDINATION

The report has been coordinated with concerned local interests and the responsible state and Federal agencies. The Final Coordination Act Report from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is included in the report. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) statement was signed on February 5, 1999 and is included in the report.

The Ponce de Leon Port Authority is the project sponsor and by letter dated January 11 1999 expressed support for the project and their intent to secure funding for project implementation.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The draft feasibility report and Environmental Assessment were circulated for public review between September 22 and November 25, 1998 and comments provided during this review are incorporated in the report.

REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION PROCESS

Prior to adoption of the proposed project, the study evaluations and report findings will be reviewed by the Chief of Engineers and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works. A coordinated review, including the state of Florida and other Federal agencies, will also be accomplished at that time. The Chief of Engineers will review the report and forward a recommendation to the Secretary of the Army.

If the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers is significantly different from the recommendation coordinated with the state of Florida and Federal agencies, interested parties will be afforded an opportunity to comment further prior to submission of the Chief's report to the Secretary. The Assistant Secretary of the Army, in consultation with the Office of Management and Budget, then establishes the Administration position on whether the proposal should be recommended to Congress for authorization.

VIEWS OF INTERESTED PARTIES

Interested parties may present written views on the report to the Chief of Engineers and the Secretary of the Army through the Directorate of Civil Works. Such communications should be mailed to the Policy Division, Policy Review Branch, ATTN: CECW-AR, 7701 Telegraph Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22315-3861, in time to reach the Policy Review Branch within 30 days from the date of this notice. Copies of information received by mail will be regarded as public information unless the correspondent requests otherwise. Such a request will limit the usefulness of the information because of the need for full public disclosure of all factors relevant to the decision on project approval.

FINAL ACTION BY THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS

The Chief of Engineers will not submit a recommendation to the Secretary on the report until after the expiration of this notice or

any extension thereof that may be granted, and full consideration of all information submitted in response thereto.

REPORT INFORMATION

Further information concerning the study and report may be obtained from the District Engineer, Jacksonville. Requests should be addressed to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Engineer District Jacksonville, P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019. The report may be viewed by interested parties at the above office. Interested parties may purchase copies of the report at the cost of reproduction (\$50.00). Checks or money orders should be made payable to the Finance and Accounting Officer, U.S. Army Engineer District, Jacksonville. Please pass along a copy of this public notice to anyone who may be interested in the report and who has not received a copy.



J. Richard Capka
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Division Engineer

CESAD-ET-P (CESAJ-PD/) (1105-2-10) 1st End
Mr. Meyer/bjg/404 562-5224
SUBJECT: Ponce de Leon Inlet, Volusia County, Florida

Commander, South Atlantic Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
Room 9M15, 60 Forsyth Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8801

12 MAR 1999

FOR CDR, HQUSACE, ATTN: CECW-ZA, WASH DC 20314-1000

I concur in the recommendation of the District Engineer. The cost apportionment for the proposed project is consistent with the existing authorized Federal project. The report shows that the majority of the costs are assigned to recreation as a project purpose and that the cost savings from this project to our on-going Operations and Maintenance program for Ponce de Leon Inlet are substantial. The stabilization of the channel through the improvement to the South Jetty will protect the investment that has been committed to the rehabilitation of the North Jetty. It will also reduce a considerable safety hazard to boaters using the inlet. Therefore, it is clearly in the best interests of the Federal Government to construct this project.



J. RICHARD CAPKA
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding